Bloomington-Monroe County Metropolitan Planning Organization IPOC Consultation Meeting

10:00 AM, Tuesday, May 22nd, 2006 INDOT Central Offices, Indianapolis, Indiana

Attendees: Frank Baukert, INDOT-Planning

Pat Martin-Bloomington MPO
Dave Franklin-FHWA
Frank N
Bill Williams-Monroe County
Adrien

Josh Desmond- Bloomington MPO

Steve Smith, INDOT-Planning Eryn Hays, INDOT-Planning Frank Nierzwicki-Ellettsville Adrien Reid- City of Bloomington

- Steve Smith, the manager of the INDOT Long Range Planning Section, began with a brief introduction. He said that the purpose of the meeting was to get the input of our local planning partners on the projects that are candidates for the 2016 year of the INDOT 10 Year Construction Plan also known as Major Moves. INDOT also wanted input on the projects in the 2017-2020 portion of the INDOT Long Range Plan to ensure that when we meet again in one year, we will have the best set of candidates for 2017. INDOT also wanted assistance with scoring projects under Indiana Planning Oversight Committee (IPOC) process. Finally, we wanted to discuss changes to INDOT's corridor hierarchy system and the implementation of an access management policy.
- Frank Baukert went over a list of projects focusing on the ones located in Bloomington-Monroe County area. The list showed which projects were let, already in Major Moves, candidates for inclusion in 2016, or lay in the 2017-2030 timeframe. INDOT was considering making a change to its plan by no longer showing reconstruction or median construction projects in its plan. This was being done to avoid confusion. Those projects which would not be shown were also indicated on the list. Those projects which would not be shown were also indicated on the list.
- A list of the 2016 IPOC candidate projects was distributed showing the preliminary scores for
 mobility and congestion relief. It was explained that these criteria represented a small part of a
 project's overall score. Economic Development and Customer Input were also contributed a
 significant number of points. The MPO was invited to provide documentation showing customer
 input and economic impact.
- The MPO believed that the most important 2016 IPOC candidate project was adding lanes on SR-46 from Spencer to Ellettsville. This corridor connects the Bloomington with Spencer. Cook has biomedical facilities in Bloomington and Spencer. Improvements to this corridor would facilitate job growth.
- The MPO believed that with the construction of I-69, east-west routes will see greater freight movement especially SR-46. It was explained that INDOT's Long Range Plan called for upgrading SR-46 to a minimum of 4 lanes from Spencer to Columbus.
- The SR-45 widening from Russell Rd to Bethel Lane on the eastside of Bloomington was discussed. The MPO gave that project a low priority.
- The MPO was concerned about INDOT's traffic counts. Previous counts had been conducted during the summer when Indiana University was out of session. The MPO believed that this led to an undercount which affected the scores of project in last year's IPOC process. They feel that the 2005 count which was conducted while school was in session would yield higher AADTs.

- The MPO appreciated the earlier input on the IPOC Scoring Process. They had submitted
 documentation concerning economic development impacts of projects, but had seen a change in
 their projects' scores. It was explained that the information submitted had been incorporated in the
 scoring process, but that the draft project listing on INDOT's website had not been updated until
 the final version was ready.
- The MPO expressed concern about the project costs listed in the handouts. Some of these costs had not changed in several years. With the recent increases in construction costs, it was possible that projects could score better because their out-dated price made them seem more cost-effective. Eryn Hays explained that INDOT had a team of engineers and project managers updating project costs to ensure that the IPOC Scoring Process had the best information available.
- Steve Smith discussed the changes to INDOT's Mobility Corridor System. Based upon the recommendations from the Central Indiana Suburban Transportation and Mobility Study (CISTMS), a proposed new corridor connecting I-74 & SR-46 near Greensburg with I-69 between Anderson and Muncie. This corridor would be located between SR-9 and SR-3. The CISTMS Study characterized this project as "a solution in search of a problem." The recommendation was to remove the corridor from the system, designate SR-3 as a Statewide Mobility Corridor, and focus future efforts to improving this facility. Also, CISTMS recommended changing the SR-44 regional mobility corridor south of Indianapolis so that it ran northwest from Franklin along SR-144.including a new connection between SR-135 and SR-37. In conjunction with these changes, INDOT was adopting a new access management policy manual which attempted to link the mobility corridor system with access management. INDOT had hired a consultant to develop a draft policy. Copies of it were distributed and the MPO was asked for their input.